In various camps, Protection, Child Protection, GBV and gender actors celebrated International Women Day, through rally, sport competitions, discussion sessions with the parents and girls on GBV, video shows, drawing activities, and handicraft exhibitions of the hand-made products of the adolescent girls. In camp 13, during the event, an art competition with the theme “My Future, My Dream” has been organized for adolescent girls where they portrayed their dreams for the future.

The ISCG Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) has taken the initiative to update ISCG Response Plan for Cyclone and all Sectors and Working Groups have been advised to update their respective Sector Cyclone Response Plans. Three documents have been shared: Sector Cyclone Response Plan template, Sector Cyclone Preparedness Tracking Matrix and Stock Tracking Matrix. A small technical group has been formed under EPWG to review the sectoral Response Plans and to compile those to finally update the ISCG Response Plan that was last updated in November 2018.

908,878 Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar

902,225 refugees identified in camps according to the RRRC-UNHCR Family Counting exercise (including 34,172 registered before 31 Aug 2017).

6,653 refugees estimated in host communities in Ukhiya/Teknaf Upazilas per Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM).

Family Counting data also counts 7,617 refugees outside of formal camp boundaries. The methodology is based on interviews with each family, collecting gender and age-disaggregated statistics, geolocations & protection needs.

So far over 151,182 persons have been registered through the Government-UNHCR registration exercise.

FUNDING FOR JOINT RESPONSE PLAN 2019

USD 148M received for the JRP 2019 of the overall USD 920.5 million requested

- Protection: $9M (10%)
- Food Security: $47M (19%)
- Education: $13M (21%)
- Health: $1.5M (1.7%)
- Nutrition: $129k (0.3%)
- Shelter and NFI: $16M (13%)
- Site Management: $0 (0%)
- WASH: $1.5M (1%)
- CwC: $0 (0%)
- Logistics: $0 (0%)
- ETS: $0 (0%)

Funding figures are in USD and were reported by Sectors and/or extracted from FTS as of 7 April 2019. Total funds received under the JRP includes funding not yet allocated to a specific Sector.
Protection

3,451 new persons at heightened risk identified and supported through protection case management mechanism (not including CP and GBV)

1,094 new cases supported with legal aid and related services including victims of trafficking, and exploitation

138,532 more persons benefitting from awareness raising and community-based protection mechanisms

Gender-based Violence

3,910 (34% children) benefited from structured psychosocial support services

8,599 women and girls (36% adolescent girls) are participating in skills development and empowerment programs

3,657 are men and boys engaged in male-targeted GBV prevention program

Child Protection

44,566 girls and boys benefiting from psychosocial activities

19,715 at-risk girls and boys, including unaccompanied and separated children, who received individual case management services

31,596 adolescents and youth receiving services, including life skills, hands on skills and resilience activities

Education

14,393 more refugee children and youth enrolled in learning opportunities in camps, settlements and host communities (259,462 in total)

681 new learning facilities established and functional (4,352 in total)

1,444 new teachers/learning facilitators trained (7,500 in total)

Food Security

879,665 people receiving food assistance

158,167 people receiving cash-in-kind livelihoods and self-reliance support including income generating activities

Site Management & Development

49,775 refugees relocated due to risks of landslides/flooding, new arrivals and construction of critical infrastructures

824 plots available in existing sites (due to abovementioned relocations and limited opportunities to develop new spaces)

6,686 solar street lights installed across all camps

32,445 households covered by radio distribution across 15 camps

7,973 people visited info hubs run by SMS agencies across 15 camps this year

Health

142 basic health units

32 health centres open 24/7

8 hospital facilities

457,848 primary health care outpatient consultations were provided in March

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)

6,805 people in settlements benefitting from safe water to agreed standards and meeting demand for domestic purposes (15 litres per person per day)

28,540 people have received a WASH hygiene kit and/or a top up kit and/or a voucher

4,020 women, men, children in settlements benefitting from functional latrines to agreed standards

Nutrition

1,719 children aged 0-59 months newly admitted for treatment for severe acute malnutrition (6,220 in total)

2,541 children aged 6-59 months newly admitted for treatment for moderate acute malnutrition (8,332 in total)

5,432 Bangladeshi households received blankets in March

Logistics

The Logistics/Engineering Hub in Madhu Chara provides 2,160m² of common storage space, Balukhali Hub provide 700m² while the Teknaf Logistics Hub provides over 480m²

Storage facilitated for 29 humanitarian organizations totalling 30,049m³ of humanitarian relief items

Communicating with Communities

Organized 7 trainings (300 humanitarian staff)

130,395 people directly mobilized for Nutrition Action Week Campaign

303,339 individuals reached through Interpersonal Communication sessions

Spotlight on Aid to Affected Host Communities: Nutrition services in March

30,375 Bangladeshi children under the age of 5 were screened for malnutrition

330 Bangladeshi children with severely acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment

1,689 Bangladeshi children with moderately acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment

783 pregnant Bangladeshi women with moderately acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment

2,254 pregnant Bangladeshi women received one-on-one counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding

46,917 Bangladeshi Children received Vitamin A supplementation
Selected Sector Achievements in March

- UNHCR continued to monitor arrivals of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar and India. At the Transit Centre (TC), new arrivals receive food, temporary shelter, information, counselling and vulnerability screening. In March, a total of 51 new arrivals approached the TC, the total figure of new arrivals in 2019 is now 1,820 individuals.
- Two new unpaid refugee volunteers Community Groups (men, women, youth) have been established during in March (in camps 13 and 14) and they are mobilized to participate in service projects. There has been a high focus in working on and promoting hygiene and sanitation issues followed by an increased prioritization of community led discussions on DRR (along with physical site improvements) approaching the cyclone and monsoon seasons.
- IOM and Partners conducted 5 Counter Trafficking Committees (CTC) meetings at district, upazila and union levels to strengthen coordination with local government and committee’s members to respond to human trafficking. These included the fifth District CTC meeting chaired by the Additional District Magistrate.
- On the 28 March the monthly ‘All camp protection focal points coordination meeting’ took place with a high focus on EPR for the incoming monsoon and heightened risk of cyclone seasons, in line with the Protection Sector EPR 2019 Cyclone Plan. Multi-agency Protection Emergency Response Units (PERU) in each camp have been mapped and capacity building on emergency protection response and referral will take place in mid-April.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- The Sector is currently 10% funded, limiting access to and quality of case management for persons at heightened protection risks, projects in host communities and support to governmental protection services.
- National policy restrictions continue to impact on refugee rights, such as freedom of movement, civil documentation, education and access to justice.
- Need for close coordination between Site Management and Protection during relocations in camps ensuring a community-sensible process that minimizes the risk of stress and anxieties for the relocating families.

Child Protection Sub-Sector (CPSS)

Sub-Sector Achievements in March

- During the reporting period, 574 new children at risk including unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were identified, registered, assessed, and provided with direct support and referrals based on a case plan tailored to their specific needs. The increased caseload has been attributed to the high number of referrals through the ongoing GoB/UNHCR registration exercise and community-based mechanisms. New cases were related to child marriage, teen pregnancy and separation of children due to polygamy of one of the parents.
- CPSS partners continue to prioritize community and family-based care for UASC. 1,826 children are in alternative care of whom 22% received follow-up in March and 44 children were reunified with their care givers including temporary lost children. In March, 15,644 children benefited from structured psychosocial activities in addition to 5,351 adolescents and youth receiving services, including life skills, hands on skills and resilience activities.
- Regarding community outreach and prevention activities, 4,115 girls and 3,712 boys, as well as 6,608 adults have been reached through awareness sessions on CP related topics such as child marriage and child labour.

Sub-Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Additional efforts are required to ensure the minimum service quality standards of specialized CP case management. Case workers have to have an appropriate caseload (ranging from 15 to 30 cases each) that is commensurate with their skills and competencies. An additional 550 case workers are required for child protection to ensure the minimum service quality standards.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector (GBVSS)

Sub-Sector Achievements in March

- As part of the cyclone monsoon emergency preparedness effort, the Sub-sector has identified GBV field staff who will be the first line responders during emergency. In addition, the Sub-sector has conducted tracking of contingency dignity kits stocks, in which GBV partners prepositioned a total of 37,600 dignity kits (94% of target).
- In the reporting month, the Sub-sector conducted an orientation session on the GBV service audit tool for a total of 38 GBV staff (from 20 partners), who will be engaged in a joint service quality audits covering all the GBV service facilities in the camps and host community locations.
- UNFPA and WFP jointly launched 10 Women Led Community Centres. The inauguration, took place on 4 March, was attended by the UN Resident Coordinator, UNFPA Country Representative, WFP Country Director and the Women and Children Affairs Ministry Additional Secretary Aynul Kabir and other stakeholders.
- To commemorate the International Women’s Day (IWD), Partners conducted several activities, such as, exhibitions, Rohingya Women’s handmade products fair, cultural and sports events in refugee camps and host communities. GoB, Partners, community and religious leaders, women, men and children actively participated.

Sub-Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- The absence of adequate lighting and lack of secure and gender-segregated latrine and bathing facilities continue to exacerbate risks to GBV, particularly for women and children.

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1This brings to 19,715 the caseload of children at risk including 1,865 unaccompanied and 5,785 separated children. Of the total, 15,433 are active cases from 2018 and 4,282 new cases since January 2019.
Achievements in March

- Teacher Learning Circles pilot is ongoing in all facilities coordinated by the Sector in camps; sessions are on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Development of a comprehensive professional development strategy, for teachers and general education staff, to complement the pilot of Teacher Learning Circles is ongoing.
- The Technical Working Group for Learning centres Phase 3 design, led by the Education Sector and supported by the Site Management and Site Development, as well as the Shelter Sector, has finalized the design of eight types of learning centres, including five cyclone resistant models, all submitted to the RRRC.
- The Youth Working Group has shared an advocacy note with the RRRC’s office to call for increased adolescent and youth programming for host community and refugee youth.
- The CPSS and Education Sector have completed and disseminated an information note to enhance understanding of their facilities and how they differ.
- Education Sector has finalized and disseminated key messaging for communities in learning facilities impacted by the upcoming ADB road construction.
- A task-bound Madrassa Engagement Task Force has been established with a focus on developing the Education Sector’s strategy in engaging religious education facilities in the camps.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Only an estimated 1,349 learning facilities have WASH facilities which are accessible to children.
- Due to duplication of students, CICs are calling for implementation of measures to track students (e.g. student identification cards and digital tracking of student attendance), which has raised concerns amongst Partners.

Food Security (FSS)  Sector Coordinator: Francesco Slaviero  francesco.slaviero@wfp.org

Achievements in March

- FSS provided food to a total of 198,284 refugee households (879, 665 individuals) of which 68,995 refugee households (310,478 individuals) were assisted with e-vouchers. E-vouchers can be exchanged for 18 different food commodities in 18 shop outlets, which allows refugees more choice, dignity and dietary diversity—while also strengthening local markets.
- To help diet diversification, 23,319 households (104,936 individuals) received complementary vouchers as a top-up to the general food distribution; these vouchers provide access to 13 different items in 7 shop outlets.
- 7,461 refugees participated in cash-for-work activities, which also helps them diversify their diets and meet other needs. These activities also aid infrastructural development such as bamboo bridge repair, roads, drainage excavation and slope stabilization.
- 7,492 new beneficiaries received skills training on micro-gardening.
- 820 refugee households and 3,510 host community households received home gardening support.
- 31,442 host community households received livelihoods support (IGA, CfW, Soil stabilization, Road construction).

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Some activities on agriculture and livelihoods were not reported in March 2019.
- FSS coordination will be strengthened over the monsoon & cyclone preparedness plans and response.

Health  Sector Coordinator: Dr. Balwinder Singh  coord_cxb@who.int

Achievements in March

- The Sector continues its engagement in its rationalization process to consolidate health services. Health Sector led inter-agency task teams undertook field exercises to score over 160 health facilities in 22 camps; suggestions were developed and submitted to Civil Surgeon. Feedback from Civil Surgeon is expected by mid-April.
- The Sector has activated the Health Sector monsoon and cyclone seasons taskforce and is updating its contingency plan for upcoming cyclone season based on feedback from the different working groups. The Health and WASH joint response plan for an AWD outbreak has also been updated as part of this process.
- A total of 76,734 Varicella cases were reported since December 2018, however the trend has been consistently declining in the past 4 weeks.
- The Sector field coordination structures are being strengthened by the hiring of two additional field coordinators and dedicated camp health focal points. Camp level field monitoring will be implemented from mid-April.
- A committee of members from GBDSS and CPSS and Health Sector piloted a GBV quality assurance assessments tool, to be used to support health facilities in strengthening their GBV services and linking with protection actors.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Duplication of health services is a challenge for the Sector which requires a systematic rationalization process.
- The following critical gaps continue to exist in health service provision: surgical capacity, 24/7 health service provision, psychiatric and psychological specialists, and treatment for non-communicable diseases.
Achievements in March

- 255,624 children under 5 years old were screened for acute malnutrition; 1,719 children aged 6-59 months were newly admitted to outpatient therapeutic programme (Cumulative: 6,220). 2,541 children were newly admitted to targeted supplementary feeding programme (Cumulative: 8,332) and 3,411 children were newly admitted to blanket supplementary food programme (Cumulative: 140,934);
- Pregnant and lactating women (PLW): 353 moderately acute malnourished PLW were newly admitted to outpatient treatment and 5,325 PLW received counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding.
- The Sector organized a Nutrition Action Week in cooperation with the Civil Surgeon’s Office (18-27 March) where 144,383 children under 5 received Vitamin A supplementation and were screened for acute malnutrition.
- A re-introduction of the Nutrition Sector Emergency Response Plan was conducted for all Sector Partners to ensure that they are prepared and ready to deal with the impacts of the monsoon season.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- The facility network needs restructuring to improve effectiveness, as well as the referral of and follow-up on discharged cases. Space constraints present a great challenge to such a restructuring.
- Protests of host communities have had some impact on the implementing partner’s ability to move safely to camps, which in some cases resulted in Sector facilities not being able to operate for up to two days.
- The threats against female volunteers have further reduced the number of female Rohingya Community Nutrition Volunteers, which might be challenging to successfully operate the Sector’s outreach programme.

Achievements in March

- Transitional shelter assistance is being provided in camps 8E, 18, 10 and 11; and planned in camps 8W, 13, 14, 16, 19 and 27. It includes training, footings and treated/mature bamboo, as well as flexible materials to strengthen and maintain existing shelters.
- Preparedness messages for the bad weather finalized. Messages to be disseminated with tie down kits distribution. Messages have been shared with SMSD Sector and CwC Working Group for further dissemination.
- Minimum requirements for household lighting document was developed by Energy & Environment WG. Partners need to provide household lighting system to compliment portable lights, ensuring creation of safe spaces.
- LPG is being provided to 119,618 refugee households (57% of total) and 2,880 households in the host community.
- NFI TWIG has been formed and is working on developing guidance in regards to different modalities for NFIs.
- Two new mid-term shelter designs have been approved for piloting by RRRC Office.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Phase 3 Shelter Interventions remains at 24%. This is a significant gap, considering that most bamboo in the camps predates the 2018 monsoon season and now needs replacing.
- Lack of sufficient, suitable land to decongest camps and construct shelters which meet Sphere standards, capable of withstanding expected weather hazards and are adequate to meet refugees’ protection needs.
- Shelter programming is hampered by funding delays, project approvals for NGOs, and supply chain issues. Bamboo treatment plants are piloted, but there is urgent need for more facilities.

Achievements in March

- First steps towards the process of formulating the macro settlement development plan for Kutupalong were completed following presentations to RRRC and Sector Partners. Approval was given to hold a planning workshop with CiCs on the approach moving forward.
- Roads infrastructure funded by ADB and LGED was mapped, including cross-sector analysis of affected facilities.
- Priority areas for slope stabilization and drainage were confirmed with ADB for potential funding.
- 100 hectares of land have been identified, where plantation is planned in 2019.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Congestion and overcrowding of camps continues to expose families to a range of heightened risks.

Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA)

- Two art and handicraft exhibitions were staged in Cox’s Bazar to mark International Women’s Day. The events, organized by GiHA WG, were held on 7 March in camp 4 and on 9 March in Long Beach Hotel. Both occasions adopted a theme of ‘My future, my dream’, with over a 100 drawings by Rohingya adolescent girls on display. Myriads of participants celebrated the exhibitions—Rohingya women, adolescent girls, children, majhees and imams as well as civil society organizations, drawing over a thousand visitors. Handicraft items, produced by Rohingya women with the aid of vocational skills training received at the various agency safe centres towards improved livelihoods, saw a high number of demand and sales. Exhibits were a great inter-agency effort.
Achievements in March

- 58,048 latrines were operated and maintained for 769,458 people in camps and 59,020 in host communities.
- 10,362 latrines were desludged in March (total: 126,975). In all, the Sector maintains 49,810 functional latrines.
- The Sector submitted its contingency stock update for monsoon and cyclone preparedness. The stock update consolidates data from 3 Agencies. Ongoing update of all partners stock, prepositioning and pipeline plans.
- World Water Day was observed in 33 camps and 4 unions through awareness sessions, fair and art competition.
- A basic training was organised by Clowns without Borders where 50 Core Facilitators from different agencies participated in the hygiene promotion through child to child approach.
- The water network mapping is being reviewed, lessons learned of last 12 months of implementation to be drafted.
- A fecal sludge categorization exercise is ongoing to determine facilities which are good, ok or bad. Strong recommendations to decommision the ones in the bad category including open desludging pits.
- Unified latrine and tube well design review is ongoing with GBV consultation, to be finalized next month.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Drainage system management at camp level is under Site Management Sector responsibility (which is also mentioned by the Sphere 2018). Clarification needed for CiCs to understand the different Sector responsibilities.

Communications with Communities Working Group (CwC)

- A factual video, set of flashcards and six new animations on fire, hygiene, malnutrition, CP, information for first time young mothers and winter preparedness were uploaded to Shongjog. Bangladesh Betar held its 13th Betar Sanglap at the DC Office, where local officials and experts answered questions from the host community.
- English language training was provided to over 80 interpreters. Rohingya language and cultural training provided to 6 partners. Provided Rohingya language training and support to 4 surveys being conducted in the camps.
- Over 665 meetings and sensitzation sessions were conducted with different community groups. More than 771 radio listener groups’ sessions were organized.
- Supporting the Nutrition Sector and actors for the Nutrition Action Week (NAW) campaign, 123 staff received ToT. 443 community leaders were engaged through 32 Advocacy Meeting and NAW campaign. 130,395 people were directly mobilized through CwC members in 34 camps.

Logistics Sector

- Logistics Sector handled a total of 30,049 m³ (8,478 mt) of cargo for 29 organizations.
- The Sector storage hub at Balukhali is now operational and is expected to become fully available to partners by April 2019, providing them access to three Mobile Storage Units.
- 15 participants from 12 organizations attended a workshop on the Preparedness Platform conducted by the Global Logistics Cluster in Cox’s Bazar on 13-14 March. The Preparedness Platform, is an innovative digital information and data collection tool aimed at addressing information gaps on physical road access constraints and at filling this gap through rapid, validated, real time data. The Platform is expected to be live from mid-April.
- On 20-21 March, the Sector held the 2nd session of the Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course at Madhu Chara Logistics and Engineering Hub. 14 participants from 14 organizations attended (N/INGOs and UN Agencies).
- The Logistics Sector consolidated guidelines on fuel storage and vehicle licence requirements, and on the process for the electric connection to the main grid and shared them with the partners.
- A 2nd round of the vehicles count exercise will be conducted in order to assess the traffic flow within the camps.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- Traffic in the camps remains a challenge. Discussions on mitigation measures have been ongoing with RRRC.
- The truck verification process held at the DC Office continues to add-on extra costs and delivery time due to truck inspections in Cox’s Bazar. The Sector, NGO Platform and ISCG are advocating for simplified requirements.

Emergency Telecommunications (ETS)

- IOM has received 138 radios and ETS has provided programming services and technical assistance to IOM staff.
- ETS is providing internet connectivity to the Balukhali logistics hub.
- BDRF staff at camp 11 info hub, has been trained on audio, visual and technical equipment provided by ETS.

Gaps/Constraints in March

- With the increase in radios and users, some radio IDs are not standardized and radio use etiquette is not always adhered to, causing confusion in the radio room.
- Engagement with mobile network operators continues to be challenging.